# The Status of Women in Trousdale County



### STATUS OF WOMEN IN TROUSDALE COUNTY: AN OVERVIEW

INSIDE				
Overview	1			
<b>County Summary</b>	2			
Overall County Rankings	3			
About the Council and this Report	4			

INDICATOR	DATA	COUNTY
		RANKING
		(of 95 Counties)
COMPOSITE EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS INDEX	29.20	11
Women's Annual Earnings	\$21,207	41
Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's Earnings (Wage Gap)	77.2%	14
Women's Labor Force Participation Rate	41.9%	46
Female Unemployment Rate	4.4%	14
Women in Managerial or Professional Occupations	28.7%	31
COMPOSITE ECONOMIC AUTONOMY INDEX	42.88	34
Businesses that are Women-Owned (% of total)	45.6%	2
Women with a Four-Year College Degree (%)	7.2%	84
Women With a High School Diploma (%)	64.1%	77
Female High School Dropout Rate	4.0%	17
Women with any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage (%)	89.8%	68
Women Earning Incomes Below the Poverty Level (%)	13.3%	19
Single Female-Headed Households Living In Poverty (%)	7.4%	23
Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (Ages 10-19)	34.0	53
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**Report Overview**: This publication on the Status of Women in Trousdale County is part of a statewide publication of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women, *The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties, 2004*. The Economic Council on Women is a State agency created under TCA § 4-50-100, et seq. by the One Hundredth General Assembly in 1998 to address the economic needs of Tennessee women.

## The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties TROUSDALE

Women have taken remarkable strides towards economic equality, from education to earnings to political participation. Women are now pursuing goals such as business ownership, leadership roles in their careers, and election to state and federal political office. However, obstacles still exist in the climb toward equality. Nationwide, equal numbers of men and women are obtaining four-year college degrees; however, these gains have not translated into pay equity. The average college-educated woman working full time earns \$44,200 a year compared to \$61,800 for men in the same category. Women are still under-represented in many of the highest paying, fastest growing sectors of the economy. Helping women break into these traditionally male-dominated areas like computer science, engineering, mathematics and technology, as well as all skilled-labor positions, gives women tools for self-sufficiency and understanding of their personal capabilities, and these advances are good for the economy of our counties and of our state.

#### **Employment and Earnings**

The employment and earnings index includes data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of women in managerial or professional occupations.

- ♦ Women in Trousdale County earn, on average, \$ 6,000 less annually than their male counterparts. However, Trousdale still ranks in the top 15 counties for the wage gap indicator.
- ♦ Women in Trousdale County are 9 percent less likely to participate in the labor force than women in nearby Rutherford County. Women still make up 45.3% of Trousdale County's work force.
- ♦ Trousdale County ranks in the top 15 counties for female unemployment rate (4.4%). The overall county unemployment rate is 3.4%.
- Among all working individuals, 18.7% have jobs in managerial or professional fields, but when only female workers are considered, that number increases quite significantly to 28.7%.

#### **Economic Autonomy**

The economic autonomy index includes information on educational attainment, business ownership and general quality of life issues.

- ♦ There are over 1,000 women in the county who did not graduate from high school. However, higher percentages of women than men have a high school diploma in Trousdale County: 61.4% of all residents have a high-school level degree.
- ♦ Only 7.2% of females in Trousdale County have a four-year college degree while 8.9% of all county residents have such a degree.
- Trousdale ranks in the top 20 counties in percent of all businesses that are women-owned (45.6%), female high school dropout rate (4%), and percent of women earning below the poverty level (13.3%).
- ♦ 24.3% of families with a female householder and no husband present live in poverty in Trousdale County; 9.7% of all families are in poverty in the county.
- ♦ Despite making up almost 46 percent of privately-owned businesses in Trousdale County, women-owned businesses only account for just 7.2% of the total sales and receipts of private firms in the county.
- Of eligible voters in Trousdale County, 52.7% are women. 5 out of the 27 elected county officials are women.

## The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties TROUSDALE

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		Trousdale County	Rank of Trous- dale County	Highest Ranking County
Earnings	Median Annual Earnings for FT Females	\$21,207	41	Williamson: \$32,243
J	Wage Gap	77.2%	14	Davidson: 82.1%
Employment	Female Labor Force Participation Rate	41.9%	46	Rutherford: 50.9%
	Female Unemployment Rate	4.4%	14	Pickett: 1.5%
	Percent of Employed Females in Management, Prof.,	20.70/	21	Anderson, 44.60/
	and Related Occupations	28.7%	31	Anderson: 44.6%
	Women Owned Business % of Total	45.6%	2	Moore: 63.3%
Education	% of Females with 4 Year Degree or Better	7.2%	84	Williamson: 39.5%
	% of Females with High School Diploma (or equiva- lency)	64.1%	77	Williamson: 90.6%
	Female Dropout Rate	4.0%	17	Clay/Pickett: 0.0%
Lifestyles	% of Women with any kind of Health Insurance Coverage	89.8%	68	Williamson: 100%
	% of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	13.3%	19	Williamson: 5.4%
	% of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	7.4%	23	Williamson: 2.5%
	Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	34.0	53	Williamson: 1.2

### ABOUT THE COUNCIL AND THIS REPORT

Trousdale County

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percentage of women in managerial occupations.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of households headed by a single female, single female headed households living in poverty, percentage of women with health insurance, the high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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#### Visit the Tennessee Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

Sources				
Earnings and Employment				
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Earnings)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Percent of Employed Females in Management, Professional, and Related Occupations	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Economic Autonomy				
Women-owned Business, Percent of total	Economic Census, 1997			
Percent of Females w/4yr Degree or Better	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Percent of Females with a High School Diploma (or equivalency)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Female Dropout Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Percent of Women with Any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002			
Percent of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Percent of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002			
Voter Demographics and Elected County Officials	National Association of Counties			